



CITY OF  
**LONG BEACH**

# **Willow Springs Park Outdoor Environmental Education Grant**

**October 10, 2017**

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# Willow Springs Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities Grant Program

- Funded by Proposition 40
- Competitive Grant provides for development of outdoor environmental education facilities and public outdoor structures and exhibits that facilitate focused learning in natural outdoor setting
- A one-cycle grant program, City applied for \$500,000

# Willow Springs Outdoor Education Trailhead Project

- Developed in partnership with Office of Sustainability, will serve as center of operations
- Will recreate environmental visitor's plaza and California Avenue trailhead
- Located at the site of the former Depot building, and will reuse the foundation left in the wake of the 2016 fire



# Willow Springs Outdoor Education Trailhead Project

- The Project will include:
  - Large shade structure and interpretive signs in open outdoor gathering area will provide introduction to local habitat and site sustainability features, history, and directions to trail network
  - Additional wayfinding and several adventure play nodes with logs and boulders
  - Educational signage focused on sustainability and environmental stewardship to encourage exploration and discovery of nature



# Project Competitiveness & Funding

- Project was determined to best fit the Grant program requirements and maximized competitiveness
- Provides outdoor location for environmental/sustainability education where none currently exists
- Provides educational opportunities for visitors
- Is located in a park-deficient area and serves target populations needing access to open space



# Project Competitiveness & Funding

- Will further develop the Willow Springs Master Plan, adopted by the City Council in January 2013
- Grant funds to be leveraged with approximately \$500,000 in CIP funds
- Groundbreaking tentatively scheduled end of 2017
- Grant Award announced by April 2018





**Questions?**